GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:122
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2002
MAINTENANCE OF TAJ BY TATA
JAI PRAKASH;SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI;SUNDER LAL TIWARI

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Rashtriya Sahara, New Delhi dated August 11, 2002 under the caption `Halla Khub Par Tajmahal Par Ek Koudi Kharch Nahi Ki Tata Samuh Ne`;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(c) the details of terms and conditions of the agreement with Tata Group including amount they pledged to spend on upkeep of Taj?

Answer

MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)& (c) As part of public-private participation through the National Culture Fund, the Indian Hotel Company Limited (Tata Group) have entered into an agreement with the Archaeological Survey of India and the Department of Culture to provide funds to the tune of Rs.1.87 crores for tourist amenities and for conservation of the monument besides development of the environment around the monument. As part of the agreement the collaborators will commission a professional agency to prepare a feasibility report on the conservation, beautification, restoration and up-gradation of the monument and the surrounding areas. The project shall be carried out by Archaeological Survey of India with the approval and under the guidance of Project Implementation Committee(PIC) under the Chairmanship of the Director General, Archaeological Survey of India.